

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An operator control panel for a printing assembly, the operator control panel comprising:

a touch-screen interface which comprises a media supply section, a printer center section and a media take-up section;

wherein:

said media supply section comprises a plurality of supply magazine graphical displays which represent supply magazines of the printing assembly;

said media take-up section comprises a plurality of take-up magazine graphical displays which represent take-up magazines of the printing assembly;

said printer center section comprises at least one paper path graphical display, said at least one paper path graphical display represents a state of media threading in a printing area of said printing assembly between an active supply magazine of said supply magazines and an active take-up magazine of said take-up magazines; and

each of said supply magazine graphical displays, said at least one paper path graphical display and said take-up magazine graphical displays are spatially displayed on said touch-screen interface in an overhead view in a manner which simulates a location of the supply magazines, the printing area and the take-up magazines of the printing assembly.

2. An operator control panel according to claim 1, wherein an operating state of said supply magazines of the printing assembly is represented by predetermined colors on the supply magazine graphical displays.

3. An operator control panel according to claim 1, wherein an operating state of the take-up magazines of the printing assembly is represented by predetermined colors on the take-up magazine graphical displays.

4. An operator control panel according to claim 1, wherein each of said supply magazine graphical displays and each of said take-up magazine

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graphical displays, when touched by an operator, are adapted to access functionality for a corresponding supply magazine of said supply magazines, or a corresponding take-up magazine of said take-up magazines.

5. A printing assembly comprising:

a plurality of media supply magazines;

a printing area which is adapted to receive media for printing thereon from each of the media supply magazines;

a plurality of take-up magazines which are each adapted to receive media from the printing area; and

an operator control panel having a touch-screen interface, said touch-screen interface comprising a plurality of first icons which correspond to said plurality of media supply magazines, a plurality of second icons which correspond to said plurality of take-up magazines, and a center section positioned between said first icons and said second icons which corresponds to said printing area, wherein each of said first icons, said second icons and said center section are graphically displayed on said touch-screen interface in a manner which spatially simulates a location of said media supply magazines, said take-up magazines and said printing area of said printing assembly.

6. A printing assembly according to claim 5, wherein said center section comprises a paper path graphical representation which illustrates a state of paper threading between an active supply magazine of said supply magazines and an active take-up magazine of said take-up magazines.

7. A printing assembly according to claim 5, wherein said center section comprises a paper path graphical representation which indicates which one of said supply magazines is an active supply magazine and which one of said take-up magazines is an active take-up magazine, said paper path graphical representation illustrating a path of media from said active supply magazine to said active take-up magazine.

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8. A printing assembly according to claim 5, wherein said center section comprises a paper path graphical representation which indicates whether images are present or absent within a paper path in said printing area.

9. A printing assembly according to claim 5, wherein said center section comprises a progress bar which represents a progress of a job batch from an active supply magazine of said supply magazines to an active take-up magazine of said take-up magazines.

10. A printing assembly according to claim 5, wherein each of said first and second icons are touch-targets for accessing functionality for said supply magazine or said take-up magazine which corresponds to said first and second icons.

11. A printing assembly according to claim 5, wherein an operational state of each of said supply magazines and each of said take-up magazines is represented by a color coding scheme.

12. A printing assembly according to claim 5, wherein said first icons, said second icons and said center section represent a substantial portion of said touch-screen interface.

13. A printing assembly according to claim 5, wherein said first icons, said second icons and said center section are sized so as to permit them to be seen and understood by an operator from a distance which is beyond a normal reading distance.

14. An operator control panel for an imaging assembly, the operator control panel comprising:

a touch-screen interface having at least one icon which represents a media component of the imaging assembly and a media path section which graphically represents a media path in the imaging assembly.

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15. An operator control panel according to claim 14, wherein each of said at least one icon and said paper path are displayed on said touch-screen interface in a manner which spatially simulates a location of the component with respect to the imaging assembly.

16. A printing assembly comprising:
at least one media magazine;
a printing area operationally associated with the at least one magazine; and
an operator control panel having a touch-screen interface, said touch-screen interface having at least one icon which represents the at least one media magazine, and a paper path section which graphically represents a paper path in said printing area.

17. A printing assembly according to claim 16, wherein each of said at least one icon and said paper path section are displayed on said touch-screen interface in a manner which spatially simulates a location of said media magazine and said printing area on said printing assembly.